



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1455, which would revise and recast the defensible space requirements within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) in the Local Responsibility Area (LRA). This bill also would specify that "Zone Zero" regulations adopted by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) may be adopted as emergency regulations and that the Board may subsequently readopt regulations that are substantially equivalent to the initial regulations.

Over the past year, my Administration has heard directly from Californians in every corner of the state about the importance of safeguarding our communities against wildfire, while also protecting the character and livability of the neighborhoods we call home.

This is a complex and challenging endeavor, and I remain committed to striking a balance between these shared desires. This is why I support the principle of Zone Zero — designing the critical space around our homes and structures to reduce wildfire risk. However, this principle must be implemented in a way that balances wildfire resilience with practicality.

In addition to signing this bill, I am directing the Board to advance Zone Zero regulations that balance wildfire resiliency with practicality, reduce wildfire risk to life and property, and align with local preferences in partnership with local governments, insurers, and communities.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

